

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 30 NOVEMBER 2000

ESTIMATES 2001/2002 - PROPOSED TIMETABLE

Report by Director of Finance

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** The report proposes a timetable for the preparation of Estimates 2001/02.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires that each Local Authority sets its Council Tax level before 11 March in the financial year preceding that for which it is set. New legislation has been introduced which will allow Councils to bill and collect Council Tax from 1 April 2001 which is one month earlier than previously. Most Councils intend to take advantage of the new legislation and as a consequence, the level of Council Tax for 2001/02 must similarly be set one month earlier than has been the case in previous years. In line with the practice in the last few years, a common council tax setting date of 15 February 2001 has been recommended by CoSLA to all Scottish Councils.
- 2.2** Council house tenants require to be given 28 days notice of any proposed rent increase. As any such increase would be applicable from 1 April 2000. In order to comply with the prescribed period of notice, and to allow approximately 2 weeks to prepare the notification information, the date of setting the final Housing Revenue Account budget also requires to be in mid February.
- 2.3** Details of the external financing and expenditure guidelines proposals are anticipated to be received by mid December 2000.

3 PROPOSED TIMETABLE

- 3.1** The timetable to ensure the timeous completion of Revenue Estimates 2001/02 for both setting level of Council House rents and Council Tax level for the forthcoming financial year is shown in the attached Appendix.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Committee approve the Estimates 2001/02 timetable as detailed in Appendix 1.

Alex McPhee
Director of Finance

AMcP/DMW
14 November 2000
ENC (1)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS NIL

Members wishing further information should contact Alex McPhee, Director of Finance, Tel: (01563) 576300.

APPENDIX 1

GENERAL SERVICES ESTIMATES 2001/02 – PROPOSED TIMETABLE

Date	Committee Meeting	Report(s) for approval submitted by	Subject	
11 January 2001	Policy and Resources (Special)	Director of Finance	General Services CCLS Revenue Budget 2001/02	
		Director of Finance/Director of Homes & Technical Services	Housing Revenue Account CCLS Revenue Budget 2001/02	
		Director of Finance	Notification by Secretary of State of:	(a) Expenditure Guidelines
				(b) Grant Aided Expenditure Levels
(c) Aggregate External Finance Settlement				
18 January 2001	Housing Committee (Special)	Director of Homes & Technical	Housing Revenue Account CCLS Revenue Budget 2001/02 and general implications	
23 January 2001	Policy and Resources (Special)	Director of Finance	Budget Proposals for Public Consultation	
			Timetable for Public Consultation	
23 January – 31 January 2001	Public Consultation Meetings			
31 January 2001	Housing Committee	Director of Homes & Technical	Setting of Council House Rent Levels 2001/02	
6 February 2001	Policy and Resources (Special)	Director of Finance/Chief Executive	Update following public consultation feedback	
7 February – 12 February 2001	Service Committees (Special)	Service Directors	Budget Packages taking account of consultation feedback	
14 February 2001	Policy and Resources (Special)	Director of Finance	Budget Proposals from Service Committees	
			Setting the Council Tax Levels 2001/02	
		Director of Homes & Technical	Setting of Council House Rent Level 2001/02	
15 February 2001	Council Meeting (Special)	Director of Finance	Setting the Council Tax Levels 2001/02	
		Director of Homes & Technical	Setting of Council House Rent Levels 2001/02	

AGENDA